1/16/77

Dear Walter (and Agnes),

And Jerry also because I was going to write him after I dug up his address, wherever I may have it. You see him.

We both appreciate the book and the thoughtfulness. First time I go to Washington by bus I'll read it. Mostly I have a ride and mostly I have no time for reading now. As I adjust to cope with the medical needs something other than what is essential to my work is sacrificed. And thus I still putwork the youngsters.

I do hope your dictionary project is behind you. It looked ghastly when I was last there so I can imagine how much more taxing it was. I look forward to seeing it. Especially if the types size does not require me to use a magnifying glass as I must with the Webster I have on the desk.

Had the book not been in yesterday's mail to remind me of you there was a letter that would have. It and the completion of one aspect of a new and enormous and entirely unprecedented research/ransacking of official files have made me think.

While I remain and will remain the kind of offbeat person I am my work is no longer declasse and there is a belated recognition that it is really quite establishmentarian. I have begun to deposit duplicates of my papers at Wisconsin, duplicates to give them a little excitement. Unless there is support that will help me with this work while I live all my papers will go there. They understand the condition and are looking for support that does not have to come from existing or pre-existing needs.

Yesterday's mail held a request for all my papers from the University of Oregon. I have had no contact with it. Not on my initiative. A complete and pleasant surprise.

What I am saying is that suddenly I am acceptable, commercially, too. And as I was thinking of this I was reminded of something you or Jerry or both separately said, that I need a business manager. If Jerry runs out of his own projects you have told me keep him so busy, or wants to change their nature and perhaps with it make an effort at making a better world for his kinds and grandkids.....

The natural promotions are really beyond a flack's dream for non-fiction. This is all without precedent, in means, in content, in significance and on the King assassination in long-lasting hardback potential and current film possibilities.

To do what I am now doing I had to influence legislation. I did it. The Freedom of Information Act was amended because of four people and cases. In the debates I am the first named. They I had to tangle with the Department of Justice and the FBI all over again, with courts hating me for it. They I had to put my own head on t he block to charge and prove perjury against the FBI to get them to make even the pretense of complying with the Act. And then I had to use other means to obtain other records. It took months and risks because they are the prosecutors, not I, but I have them disgorging. They have been for six months, at the rate of not less than more than 500 secret pages a week. Ever hear of that? Even from Nader, who Walter should know really owes a large part of his start to Jerry. I am getting so much I've had to reorganize my office and my cellar. I have 8 four-drawer file cabinets in my office, more than seven two-drawer ones, and I'm not going down to the cellar to count but last week four new cabinents were delivered and there must have been twice that many before. Not only the FBI*CIA too, with stuff of considerable movie potential. And what I have obtained-properly, understand - not in my FOIA request is even more significant and totally unprecedented. It will be used for years in many ways, including in a book of which it will be the third part. It is an expose like none and not a rhetorical one, one that can be in facsimile.

All of a sudden I am "in." Establishmentarian as hell and still of interest to the kids and the radicals. Now the Congress is following up behind me. (The are using Frame-Up as a text for the cops they have hired as investigators.)

In the overall virtually nothing truthful has come to light outside my work. There has been much disinformation and nonsense but not fact.

Since we last spoke I have turned a federal appeals court entirely around and it has given me powers and obligations I've never heard of. It decided that what I do serves the nation's interest and that to do this I "must" take the testimony of a ~~marked~~ number of FBI agents who retired to prevent this.

As I may have told you, the Department of Justice has already certified to a federal court that I knew more about the JFK assassination and its investigation than anyone in the FBI. This is really more than dust-jacket material. I do think I am mentioning some of the naturals of legitimate promotions that with the changed situation should be both commercial and factual.

When you see him please give this to Jerry. Or if you do not expect to see him soon, would you please mail it?

We are as we have been. Right now we are snowed in, except for my walking out to the road, for the third time in three weeks. It does not bother us. Considering everything I feel fine. I miss the walking I used to enjoy so but I exercycle instead. That, however, does not deter the adding of pounds. Once the snow is gone and I do not have to be concerned about falling, a none for me, I'll be walking again. Lil is not working for Block any more and is already in her own tax work, for herself. Block will still send her their more difficult clients, meaning tougher cases.

Hope this is a good year for all of you.

Best,